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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/660,560

09/12/2003

Takanori Masui

117046

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. BOX 19928
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320

EXAMINER

PAN, JOSEPH T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2135

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

01/29/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/660,560

Applicant(s)

MASUI ET AL.

Examiner

Joseph Pan

Art Unit

2135

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/5/03
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-5, 7, 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Foster et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0184518 A1), hereinafter "Foster".

Referring to claim 1:

Foster teaches:

An information processor which implements a service by cooperatively operating a plurality of job processors each executing its processing in accordance with a process description defined in instruction data, the information processor comprising:

an encryption processor which encrypts the process *description defined* in said instruction data so as to make the process description representing a process to be executed by each one of the job processors decryptable for the job processor which executes the process (see figure 15, element 610 'encrypt job ticket'; and page 12, paragraph [0125] "The information in the job ticket 61 (excluding the public key signature field 67) is then, for example, optionally hashed using, for example, MD5 protocol, and encrypted with a public key encryption system, block 610, generating a hash number, block 615. Other hashing or encryption techniques may also be used." of Foster, emphasis added), and

a transmitter which sends the instruction data, in which the process description is encrypted by said encryption processor, to the job processor which executes the process described in the encrypted process description (see page 5, paragraph [0056], lines 5-7 of Foster).

Referring to claim 2:

Foster teaches the claimed subject matter: an information processor which implements a service by cooperatively operating a plurality of job processors each executing its processing in accordance with a process description defined in instruction data (see claim 1 above). Foster further discloses the downstream process (see page 4, paragraph [0053], lines 1-3 of Foster).

Referring to claim 3:

Foster teaches the claimed subject matter: an information processor which implements a service by cooperatively operating a plurality of job processors each executing its processing in accordance with a process description defined in instruction data (see claim 1 above). Foster further discloses the public key (see page 6, paragraph [0064], lines 1-4 of Foster).

Referring to claims 4-5:

Foster teaches the claimed subject matter: an information processor which implements a service by cooperatively operating a plurality of job processors each executing its processing in accordance with a process description defined in instruction data (see claim 1 above). Foster further discloses the encryption (see page 6, paragraph [0064], lines 1-4 of Foster).

Referring to claims 7, 9-10:

Foster teaches:

An information processing method carried out by a computer which implements a service by cooperatively operating a plurality of job processors each executing a process according to each one of a plurality of process descriptions defined in instruction data, the information processing method comprising the steps of:

encrypting the process description defined in said instruction data so as to make the process description representing the process to be executed by each one of

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the job processors decryptable for the job processor which executes the process (see page 6, paragraph [0064] of Foster), and

sending the encrypted instruction data to one of the job processors which executes the process described in said process description (see page 6, paragraph [0064] of Foster).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 6, 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Foster et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0184518 A1) in view of Nonaka (U.S. Patent No. 6,633,403 B1).

Referring to claims 6, 8:

i. Foster teaches:

An information processor contained in a system which implements a service through cooperative operation of a plurality of job processors, the information processor comprising:

a receiver which receives instruction data in *which an* encrypted process description representing a process is contained (see page 6, paragraph [0064] of Foster);

a decryption processor which decrypts a part of the process description, which is received by the receiver, representing a process to be executed by the job processor itself (see page 6, paragraph [0064] of Foster);

a transmitter which sends the instruction data to the other job processors *which* subsequently execute their processing (see page 6, paragraph [0064] of Foster).

However, Foster does not specifically mention deleting the part of the process description.

ii. Nonaka teaches a method for limiting the communication between print controller and print engine, wherein Nonaka discloses deleting the command [i.e., a job] from the command queue when the command is successfully completed.

iii. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Nonaka into the method of Foster to delete the part of the process description.

iv. The ordinary skilled person would have been motivated to have applied the teaching of Nonaka into the system of Foster to delete the part of the process description, because "Once terminated, the ticket may be deleted from the job ticket service 60, and the corresponding content 51 may be de-referenced. This feature may help eliminate stale data, and free up resources for other job requests 32 (see FIG. 7)." (see page 7, paragraph [0085], lines 6-9 of Foster).

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph Pan whose telephone number is 571-272-5987.

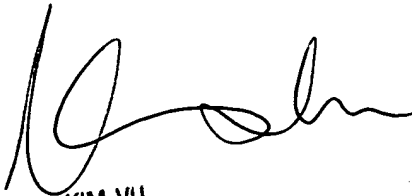
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached at 571-272-3859. The fax and phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2100.

Joseph Pan

January 17, 2007



KIM VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100